

AMENDMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.111
U.S. Patent Appln. No. 09/737,564

a¹ amended
a cylindrical stator core formed circumferentially with a number of slots extending axially; and

a stator winding composed of a three-phase stator winding portion constructed by connecting three winding phase portions into a three-phase star connection, each of said winding phase portions being installed in said stator core by sequentially inserting strands of wire into said slots at predetermined intervals and a neutral point of said stator winding being electrically connected to a rectifier for rectifying alternating-current output, wherein each of said strands of wire constituting said three winding phase portions is led out from a coil end group of said stator winding to an outer side to constitute a neutral-point terminal, and each of said neutral-point terminals has a flat side surface portion; and

a connecting member including a conductor having flat side surface portions, said flat side surface portions of said neutral-point terminals and said connecting member being abutted and electrically joined to each other to form a neutral-point joint portion of said stator winding.

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5. (Amended) The stator for an alternator according to Claim 1 wherein said connecting member constitutes a neutral-point lead portion connected to said rectifier.

Please add the following new claims:

a³ cont.
8. (New) The stator for an alternator according to Claim 1, wherein said neutral-point terminals comprise first, second and third neutral point terminals including tip portions extending in the axial direction,

a3
cont.
said connecting member includes first and second portions extending in the axial direction, and a third portion disposed between said first and second portions and extending the in circumferential direction,

said side surface portions of said tip portions of said first, second and third neutral-point terminals and said first portion of said connecting member being abutted and electrically joined to form said neutral-point joint portion.

9. (New) The stator for an alternator according to Claim 1, wherein said connecting member extends in a circumferential direction along apex portions of said coil end group, said flat side surface portions of said neutral-point terminals being abutted and electrically joined to one of said flat side surface portions of said connecting member to form said neutral-point joint portion of said stator winding.

10. (New) A stator for an alternator, said stator comprising:
a cylindrical stator core formed circumferentially with a number of slots extending axially; and

a stator winding composed of a three-phase stator winding portion constructed by connecting three winding phase portions into a three-phase star connection, each of said winding phase portions being installed in said stator core by sequentially inserting strands of wire into said slots at predetermined intervals and a neutral point of said stator winding being electrically connected to a rectifier for rectifying alternating-current output, wherein

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cancel.* each of said strands of wire constituting said three winding phase portions is led out from a coil end group of said stator winding to an outer side to constitute a neutral-point terminal,

each of said neutral-point terminals has a flat side surface portion,

said neutral-point terminals of said strands of wire constituting said three winding phase portions comprise first, second and third neutral-point terminals, each extending axially outwards from said coil end group and then being bent so as to extend in the circumferential direction along apex portions of said coil end group with said first, second and third neutral-point terminals being stacked in the axial direction,

said side surface portions of said first, second and third neutral-point terminals being abutted and electrically joined where said first, second and third neutral-point terminals are stacked in the axial direction to form a neutral-point joint portion of said stator winding, and

said third neutral-point terminal further extending in the circumferential direction from said neutral-point joint portion to constitute a neutral-point lead portion connected to said rectifier.